

P.O. Box 31207 Bethesda, MD 20824

5/1/19

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries The Honorable Doug Collins U. S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representatives Jeffries and Collins:

I am writing you in my capacity as executive director of the American Society of Media Photographers (ASMP), a trade association representing nearly 5000 independent commercial photographers, to thank you for once again introducing the Copyright Alternative in Small-Claims Enforcement Act (the "CASE Act").

The introduction of this critical legislation is a reaffirmation of your keen understanding of the historical inequity that all too often leaves individual creators as small business owners with rights but no remedies when their creative works are infringed, and your long-standing commitment to creation of legal procedures that would help ensure that effective and affordable tools are available when works are exploited by others without permission or compensation – something nearly 70% of our members experience on a weekly basis.

Your continuing pursuit of legislation that provides individual creators and small business owners with a viable alternative to the overly complex and prohibitively expensive federal litigation is greatly appreciated by ASMP's members and many others in the visual artist community. ASMP and its allies in this endeavor look forward to working with you and your colleagues to achieve enactment of the CASE Act in the current Congress.

Sincerely,

Thomas R. Kennedy

**Executive Director** 

American Society of Media Photographers